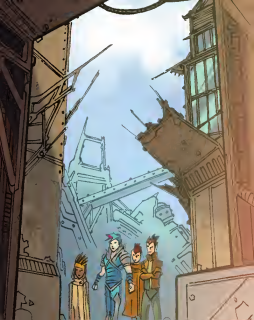
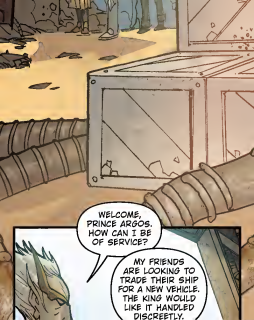


***THE FREE CITY
OF SEA'VE***





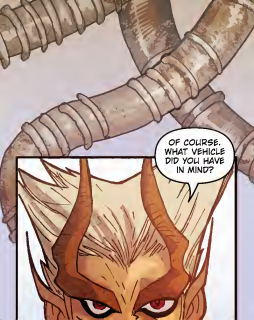




WELCOME,
PRINCE ARGOS.
HOW CAN I BE
OF SERVICE?

MY FRIENDS
ARE LOOKING TO
TRADE THEIR SHIP
FOR A NEW VEHICLE.
THE KING WOULD
LIKE IT HANDLED
DISCREETLY.





OF COURSE.
WHAT VEHICLE
DID YOU HAVE
IN MIND?



CHAPTER 8

CHAPTER 8



WRITER/ARTIST/CREATOR

KARL ALTSTAETTER

COLORS

KOMIKAKI STUDIO
FEATURING KEVIN LIEW

LETTERS

TAYLOR ESPOSITO

EDITOR

TOM AKEL



WE WERE
TOLD YOU HAVE
VEHICLES LEFT OVER
FROM THE WAR. WE
NEED SOMETHING
FAST AND BATTLE
READY.



INDEED
WE DO. MOSTLY
WE USE THEM FOR
PARTS. WE DON'T
HAVE MANY
BUYERS FOR
WARSHIPS.







FOLLOW
ME.





A comic book panel showing two characters in the foreground and a large armored figure on the right. The character on the left has red hair and a blue visor, wearing an orange cloak. The character in the middle has brown hair and is wearing a brown jacket, gesturing with his hand. The large figure on the right is wearing heavy, segmented armor. The background shows a stone archway.

I DON'T
KNOW ABOUT
THIS ARGOS GUY.
HE SEEMS LIKE
AN ARROGANT
JERK.

WELL, IT
TAKES ONE
TO KNOW
ONE.





I SEE THE
CLAWS ARE OUT
THIS MORNING. I'M
REELING FROM
YOUR WITTY
REPARTÉE.



I'M MORE
CONCERNED WITH
THE SISTER. SHE
SEEMS LIKE A FEW
CANS SHORT OF
A SIX PACK.





YESSS. SHE
REEKS OF BAD
INTENTIONS AND A
CARRIES THE STENCH
OF EVIL. WE SHOULD
KILL HER WHILE WE
HAVE THE CHANCE! I
WOULD GLADLY LEND
MY TALENTS TO THIS
ENDEAVOR.

THANKS FOR
THE OFFER D'TOOTH,
BUT WE WON'T BE
KILLING PRINCESS
"RESTING BITCH FACE"
ANYTIME SOON. BY
THE WAY, IF I WANT
YOUR OPINION I'LL
ASK FOR IT.





Hehehehe...
YOU WOULD
DO WELL TO TAKE
MY OPINIONS MORE
SERIOUSLY. I DON'T
TRUST THE FARGOTH
EITHER. SHE IS
HIDING SOME-
THING.





DOESN'T
THAT THING
HAVE AN ON
AND OFF
SWITCH?



IS THERE
ANYONE HE
LIKES?



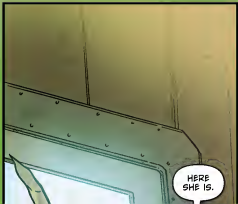


OTHER THAN
HIMSELF?

A comic book panel with a light blue background. In the bottom right corner, there is a large, stylized red shape representing a character's hair. A speech bubble originates from the left side of the panel.

I DON'T
THINK SO.

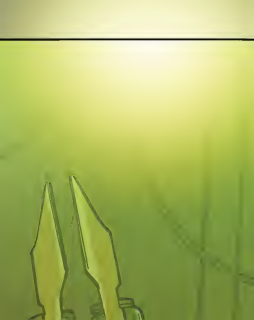




HERE
SHE IS.











**THE
GHOST
BLADE!**



**AMAZING! A
DREADNOUGHT CLASS
WARSHIP IN PERFECT**

CONDITION. THEIR SPEED
AND FIREPOWER ARE
UNMATCHED!

I SEE YOU
KNOW YOUR WAR-
SHIPS. YOU ARE IN THE
PRESENCE OF THE LEGENDARY
GHOST BLADE. IT SAW ACTION
THROUGHOUT THE PRIMALS
AND WAS ABANDONED
HERE AFTER THE
WAR.

I HAVE A
SOFT SPOT FOR ITS
HISTORY SO I LEFT IT
UNTOUCHED. IT NEEDS A
BIT OF WORK AND SOME-
ONE WHO IS WILLING
TO PUT IN THE TIME
AND CARE.





**WE'LL
TAKE
IT!**



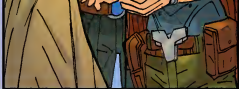


ARE YOU
SURE MIKU?
SHOULDN'T WE
LOOK AT SOME
OTHERS? MAYBE

THESE SHIPS
WERE DEVELOPED BY
THE FARGOTH. I STUDIED
THEM IN SCHOOL. I KNOW
THEM INSIDE AND OUT.
TRUST ME, WON'T FIND
A BETTER SHIP.

OTHERS? WANTED
SOMETHING
A LITTLE
NEWER?

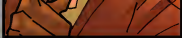




SOUNDS
LIKE MIKU KNOWS
WHAT SHE'S TALKING
ABOUT. BESIDES, THAT
IS ONE SASSY LOOKING
PIECE OF ASS...

KICKING...TECH.





SASSY?
REALLY? I WISH
YOU HAD AN ON
AND OFF SWITCH
SOMETIMES.





MIKU
KNOWS HER
STUFF. OKAY,
WE'LL TAKE
IT.

YES!





IT'S

SETTLED.
HAVE THE SHIP
DELIVERED TO
DOCKING BAY 12.
THE KING
THANKS YOU.



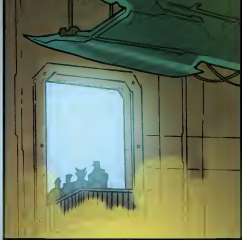


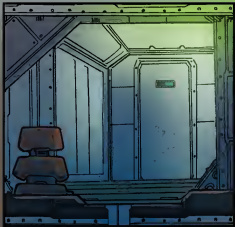
IT HAS
BEEN MY PLEASURE.
ANYTHING FOR KING
MARRUS. I AM SAD TO
SEE GHOST BLADE GO
BUT I KNOW SHE WILL BE
IN GOOD HANDS. YOU WILL
FIND THAT SHE'S OLD,
BUT FULL OF
SURPRISES.

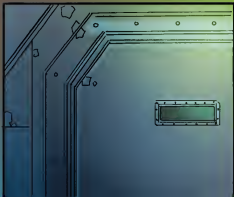
















SCA'VE:

THE PALACE LIBRARY.

SHE
WAS MY
LIFE





GAL'TA RA WAS EVERYTHING YOU COULD ASK FOR IN A QUEEN AND A WIFE. SHE DIED WHILE GIVING BIRTH TO ARGOS. IT STRUCK CARRUS THE MOST. I DID MY BEST TO BE THERE FOR HER, BUT SHE NEEDED HER MOTHER'S WISDOM.

I SENT HER TO THE BEST SCHOOLS. SHE WENT TO THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF KARTENITH. WHEN SHE CAME BACK SHE WAS... DIFFERENT. *CHANGED.*

ANGRY. WITH MOST OF THAT
ANGER DIRECTED TOWARDS
ME. I FEAR I HAVE FAILED
HER AS A FATHER.





FOR CHILDREN,
THEIR PARENTS ARE
THEIR WORLD. WHEN THEY
GET TO THAT AGE WHERE
THEY WANT TO DEFINE THEIR
PLACE IN THE WORLD IT'S
NATURAL FOR THEM TO TURN
ON THEIR PARENTS. ONCE SHE
FINDS HER OWN PLACE SHE
WILL LOOK BACK AND YOUR
TEACHINGS WILL BECOME
CLEAR.



HAHAHA.

YOU NEVER CEASE TO
AMAZE ME. I WOULDN'T
HAVE EXPECTED PARENTAL
ADVICE FROM "GENERAL
D'CLO MARA HERO
OF THE PRIMAL
WARS".







AS YOU
WELL KNOW, THE
LEGEND IS OFTEN THE
FARTHEST THING FROM THE
PERSON IT COMES FROM.
I WAS A REBELLIOUS
YOUTH ONCE. I SPEAK
FROM EXPERIENCE, NOT
AS A PARENT.



I KNOW
THIS TO BE
TRUE. TELL ME
WHAT BROUGHT
YOU HERE?





AFTER THE WAR.

LORD VASS AND HIS
SHA DO KA SEE'ERS
USED THEIR POWERS OF
PREMONITION TO SEE INTO
THE FUTURE AND USED THOSE
INSIGHTS TO HELP GUIDE THE
LEADERS OF MIRROR. THEY
DISCOVERED A MISSING
PIECE IN THE NEAR FUTURE,
WHERE MIRROR ITSELF
CEASED TO EXIST.

EVERY CHILD
IN MIRROR KNOWS
OF THE SHA DO KA
PROPHECIES. IT'S ALSO
A MATTER OF DEBATE HOW
FAR LORD VASS VEERS FROM
GUIDANCE TO MANIPULATION.
I KNOW YOU WERE RAISED
UNDER HIS TUTELAGE, BUT
I NEVER THOUGHT YOU
WERE A STRICT
BELIEVER IN IT.

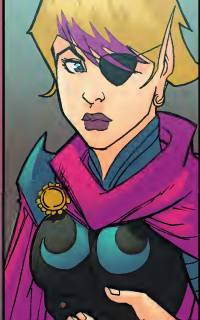




I
WASN'T UNTIL
THE SO CALLED
"REINCARNATED"
QUEEN APPEARED
AND STOLE THE
THRONE.

A VISION
APPEARED TO THE
SEE'ERS. THEY SAW THE
GATHERING OF A NEW TWELVE.
MAGIC USERS THAT CARRIED THE
BLOODLINES OF THE ORIGINAL
TWELVE THAT CREATED MIRROR
WOULD BE GATHERED AND
USED TO CAST A
NEW SPELL.

A SPELL
THAT WOULD
COMBINE MIRROR WITH
THE WORLD THEY CALL
EARTH, DESTROYING
BOTH WORLDS!





HAHAHA.
THE DRACONUS
ALREADY CONTROL
MIRROR. WHY WOULD THE
QUEEN WANT TO DESTROY IT?
EVEN IF THIS WERE TRUE, DO
YOU REALLY BELIEVE THERE
IS ENOUGH MAGIC LEFT IN
MIRROR TO MAKE SUCH
A THING HAPPEN? IT'S
LUDICROUS.





IT'S NOT
ONLY TRUE, IT'S
HAPPENING. LORD VASS
SENT ME ON A MISSION
TO FIND THE TWELVE AND
DELIVER THEM TO HIM IN
ORDER TO HIDE THEM
FROM THE DRACONUS.
THE DRACONUS HAVE
BEEN AFTER ME
EVER SINCE.







WE'VE KNOWN
EACH OTHER A LONG
TIME. OUR FRIENDSHIP
RUNS DEEPER THAN
BLOOD.

SO I MUST
ASK, ARE YOU SURE
THIS ISN'T YOU NOT
WANTING TO LET GO OF
THE WAR? A WARRIOR
DOESN'T FEAR BATTLE. THEY
FEAR WHEN THE BATTLE
FINALLY ENDS. A NORMAL

THEIR ENEMY.
LIFE IS THEIR TRUE
ENEMY.

D'CLO, PLEASE
STAY FOR A FEW DAYS.
MY HOME IS YOUR HOME.
PERHAPS YOU MIGHT FIND
IT TO BE A PLACE WORTH
STAYING IN. SET DOWN
SOME ROOTS?





I FEARED YOU
WOULD THINK THIS. THIS
IS THE WORST TYPE OF WAR
BECAUSE IT HAPPENS IN THE

BECAUSE IT HAPPENS IN THE
SHADOWS. AWAY FROM THE VIEW
OF PEOPLE WHO WOULD RISE TO
STOP IT. THANK YOU FOR GIVING
US...ME, A CHANCE TO CATCH
OUR BREATH AND GET A NEW
SHIP. WE WILL LEAVE IN
THE MORNING.





AS ALWAYS
YOU ARE STUBBORN
TO A FAULT. WE HAVE
A DINNER PLANNED FOR
YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS.
LET SCA'VE BE YOUR
HOME AT LEAST FOR
TONIGHT.







SCA'VE:
ROYAL PALACE DINING HALL



YOUR
ATTENTION
PLEASE.







AS KING OF
THE CAINUS PEOPLE,
IT HAS BEEN OUR HONOR
TO HAVE YOU AS OUR
GUESTS. WE HOPE THIS FEAST
WILL LEAVE YOU WITH FOND
MEMORIES OF THE CITY OF
SCA'VE THAT YOU WILL HOLD
IN YOUR HEARTS UNTIL
YOU RETURN.



**LET
THE FEAST
BEGIN!**











Hmmmm.
I SEE YOU HAVE
SOMETHING DELICIOUS
TO EAT. WHAT WILL I
FEAST ON? WHERE IS
MY FEAST OF
BLOOD?

LOOK
D'TOOTH. THERE
WON'T BE ANY "BLOOD
FEASTING" TONIGHT. THE
CLOSEST YOU MIGHT GET
IS SOME RARE LEG OF
THAT BEAST.

Hmmmm.
WE SHALL
SEE...





YOU CAN'T
BLAME HIM FOR
BEING HUNGRY.
I'M STARVED.





PLEASE
DON'T
ENCOURAGE
HIM.



**THIS PARTY
IS OVER YOU**

**IS OVER! YOU
ARE ALL UNDER
ARREST!**

**WHAT
IS THE
MEANING
OF THIS?**





YOU'VE
SHOWN YOURSELF
TO BE A COLLABORATOR
WITH ENEMIES OF THE
DRAGONAGE. GUILTY. YOU'VE

DRACONUS GUILD! YOU'VE
ENDANGERED THE PEOPLE
OF SCAVE.

YOU
ARE A TRAITOR TO
OUR PEOPLE AND YOU
ARE NO LONGER FIT
TO BE KING.

AS MASTER
AT ARMS I MUST
RELIEVE YOUR DUTY
FOR CRIMES AGAINST
THE DRACONUS
GUILD!





**NEXT EPISODE:
A MURDER
MOST FOUL
PART 01**

